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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to express my thoughts regarding the proposed Stibnite Gold Mine. As a deeply concerned citizen, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the DEIS.

Natural wild places such as the entire Salmon River watershed bears the ability [ndash] by its very existence [ndash] to inform humanity[rsquo]s meaningful existence. My own personal experience of health, wellbeing and joy is impacted directly by the ability to spend time along the South Fork of the Salmon River. As a fisherman, I love the bull trout, chinook salmon, steelhead and cutthroat trout that live in this river and its tributaries. As a writer, and I find inspiration from my direct experience with this beautiful, wild river and its inhabitants.

I have grave concern over Midas[rsquo] claim that they will leave the area better than they found it. It[rsquo]s simply untrue, and impossible. The South Fork of the Salmon has world class salmonid habitat, and the Forest Service has determined (as cited in the DEIS) that this project would adversely affect bull trout, Chinook salmon, steelhead [ndash] as well as their critical habitats.

From my perspective, the only option is Alternative 5, which would not allow any further mining activity. Please consider selecting Alternative 5 as the best option. Any other options will result in habitat loss for multiple critically endangered fish species, much warmer temps in most streams within the watershed, and the permanent destruction of at least one critical spawning stream for multiple species.

For the fish, for healthy streams and thriving ecosystems, for indigenous culture, for the sanity of humanity [ndash] Alternative 5 is the only way.